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December 19, 2001

**Via Electronic Filing**

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation: Proposed First Quarter 2002 Universal Service Contribution Factor, CC Docket No. 96-45

Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45; 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review – Streamlined Contributor Reporting Requirements Associated with Administration of Telecommunications Relay Service, North American Numbering Plan, Local Number Portability, and Universal Service Support Mechanisms, CC Docket 98-171; Telecommunications Services for Individuals with Hearing Speech Disabilities and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, CC Docket No. 90-571; Administration of the North American Numbering Plan and North American Numbering Plan Cost Recovery Contribution Factor and Fund Size, CC Docket No. 92-237, NSD File No. L-00-72; Number Resource Optimization, CC Docket No. 99-200; and Telephone Number Portability, CC Docket No. 95-116.

Dear Ms. Salas;

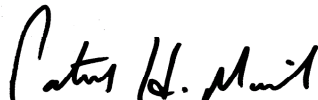
Yesterday, Joel Lubin, Robert Quinn and I met with Matthew Brill, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy. The purpose of the meeting was to review AT&T's comments in the Universal Service Contribution Factor docket which requested, if necessary, a modification or waiver of the rule that requires carriers to complete the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet using revenue figures that are lagged by six months and instead to permit AT&T to utilize a projection of First Quarter 2002 revenues. The specific proposal was set forth in an ex parte communication filed with the Commission on December 13, 2001.

In addition, we urged the Commission to continue working towards a permanent mechanism that would eliminate the lag effect in its entirety and adopt a flat-rate assessment mechanism consistent with our comments, reply comments and other Coalition filings in this proceeding.

The positions expressed by AT&T were consistent with those contained in the Comments and ex parte filings previously made in the aforementioned dockets.

Consistent with the Commission rules, I am filing one electronic copy of this notice and request that you place it in the record of the proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick H. Merrill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

cc: Matthew Brill